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Lisbon, Jan. 5. N.S.

ON New-Year's-Day the Ceremony of the King's being Sworn and Proclaimed was performed here with the uſual Solemnity. A Gallery was erected for that purpoſe, which reached from the great Stairs of the Palace, along the ſide of it, to the India-Houſe, and at the end of it a Throne was erected; this Gallery being open towards a ſpacious Place called the Terrero, which was filled with great Numbers of Spectators. The King walked along the Gallery to the Throne, where one of the Great Officers of State made a Speech to him, and then adminiſtred to his Majeſty the uſual Oath; which being done, the Secretary of State read aloud the Oath which his Majeſty had taken, and afterwards the Nobility there preſent ſwore Allegiance to him, and were admitted to kiſs his Hand: The Judges of the ſeveral Tribunals and other Publick Officers did the like. The King afterwards returned along the Gallery to the Palace, the People making great Acclamations as he paſſed by, and from thence went to the Royal Chapel, where *Te Deum* was ſung; and the Guns of the Caſtles and Forts near this City were ſeveral times diſcharged.

Naples, Dec. 21. *N.S.* The regular Forces in this Kingdom have Orders to be in a readineſs to march upon the firſt Notice they ſhall receive, and about 2000 of them are come hither to ſtrengthen our Gariſon; and the neceſſary Preparations are making for our Defence, in caſe the Confederates, having reſtored the other Spaniſh Dominions in Italy to their lawful Prince King Charles III. ſhould endeavour to bring this Country alſo under his Catholick Majeſty's Obedience. Our Vice-Roy has demanded of the Magiſtrates of this City a Supply of Two Millions of Ducats towards the ſubſiſting of his Troops, who have met ſeveral times to conſider of this Demand, but are yet come to no Reſolution. He has alſo propoſed to them to renew the Impoſt upon Meal, which was taken off when the Duke of Anjou was here; but they would not conſent to it. Our laſt Letters from Sicily ſay, the States of that Iſland were to aſſemble yeſterday at Palermo, in purſuance of a Summons from the Marquis of Bedmar, their Vice-Roy, who has called them together to demand a Supply towards the Expences of the next Campaign: But in all probability he will meet with as great Difficulties in the obtaining it, as our Vice-Roy does here. There hath lately happen'd a violent Earthquake in the Abruzzo, which has overthrown whole Towns; and great Numbers of People have been bury'd under their Ruins: A Shock of it was felt here the 19th Inſtant, but did little or no Damage.

Rome, December 25. The 23d Inſtant the Congregation appointed by the Pope to examine into the Validity of the late Election of a Biſhop of Munſter, came to a Reſolution: It conſiſted of 27 Prelates, of whom 14 were of Opinion, That the Biſhop of Paderborn was duly elected, 7 voted for the Biſhop of Oſnabrug, and the reſt would give their Voice for neither ſide; ſo that the Election of the Biſhop of Paderborn to the See of Munſter was declared to be valid. Another Congregation was held two Days before, to conſult whether the Biſhops of Poſen and Warmia, who were impriſoned for having ſided with the Confederated Nobility of Poland againſt their King, ſhould be ſet at Liberty, now that the State of Affairs is altered in that Country: It was reſolved they ſhould; and the Biſhop of Warmia is already arrived here from Ancona, the Place of his Confinement.

Turin, Dec. 18. The Duke of Savoy returned hither the 11th Inſtant. The 16th his Royal Highneſs took a View of the Citadel, and other Fortifications of this Place, and gave Directions for the adding ſome new Works. He intends alſo to fortify Caſal. The Inhabitants of that Town have agreed to give his Royal Highneſs 8000 Crowns by way of Contribution, who has been pleaſed to remit 3000 of that Sum, on Condition that they ſhall ſupply the Gariſon there with Wood for Fuel. The Montferrate is excuſed from providing Winter Quarters; in lieu of which the Inhabitants are to pay 1000 Crowns a Day, during a certain time, for the Subſiſtence of our Troops. We are in hopes the Gariſon of Valenza will ſhortly be forced to ſurrender, being in want of ſeveral Neceſſaries, and the Troops which are employed in that Blockade will afterwards be ſent to attack Suza; the taking of which Place will in a great meaſure ſecure us againſt the Enemy's ſending any more Forces into theſe Parts in the Spring.

Venice, Dec. 31. Signior Moroſini returned hither about a Fortnight ago from his Embaſſy at the Court of Rome; and Signior Nani, whom our Senate has appointed to ſucceed him, ſet out about the ſame time for Loretto, intending to continue there during the Holidays, and afterwards to proceed on his Journey for Rome. The Count de Medavi has poſted the greateſt part of the French Troops under his Command along the Po, from Oſtiglia to Borgoforte, and from thence to Uſtiano on the Oglio, for the better covering the Mantuan: However the Confederate Troops have made a Bridge of Boats over the Oglio at Gazolo, and have ſent Summons to the Inhabitants of that Dutchy to pay them Contributions. They have made a Line along the Oglio, and thereby wholly cut off the Enemy's Communication with Cremona, which Place they keep cloſely blocked up. Proviſions begin to grow exceſſive dear in Mantua, and the Inhabitants are extreamly diſſatisfied with the French, and ripe for a Revolt; to prevent which, Monſieur Medavi has lately reinforced that Gariſon.

Milan, Jan. 1. Prince Eugene continues here, and is giving the neceſſary Directions for the attacking of our Caſtle; in order to which 100 Pieces of Cannon and Mortars have lately been brought into our Neighbourhood, and a great Magazine of Proviſions and Ammunition is erected in the Convent de la Fontana, near this City. The Siege will be begun towards the latter end of this Month; and his Highneſs intends in the mean time to go to Turin, to confer with the Duke of Savoy. The Prince of Heſſe-Caſſel arrived here this Week, having left the Troops under his Command in the Neighbourhood of Cremona, poſted in ſuch manner, that they keep that Town cloſely blocked up; and we hear the Gariſon begins to be in want of Proviſions, as does alſo that of Valenza, which Place is likewiſe narrowly beſet by the Troops which the Duke of Savoy has quartered in its Neighbourhood, the Seaſon not permitting his Royal Highneſs to beſiege it. On the 25th paſt a ſtrong Party of the Imperialiſts, taking the Advantage of a thick Fog, ſurpriſed the Town of Oſtiglia, and took the French Gariſon there Priſoners of War: They found there many Pieces of Cannon, and a great Magazine of Proviſions, Ammunition, and other Warlike Stores. A Trumpeter is come hither from Monſieur Medavi, who commands the French Forces in the Mantuan, to deſire a Paſs of Prince Eugene for an Officer he intends to ſend to him with ſome Propoſals; and the Paſs has been ſent him accordingly.

Vienna, Jan. 1. The Elector and Electreſs Palatine are ſhortly expected here. We have an Account from Poland, That Prince Menzicoff, General of the Muſcovite Forces, was advanced with his Troops as far as Jolcoff, near Lemberg, and expected ſhortly to be joined by the Sieurs Smigielsky, Wiſnowisky, and other Poliſh Generals. Prince Ragotzi continues at Roſenau with the chief Body of the Malecontents. General Staremberg, with the Imperial Troops under his Command, is ſtill at Oedenbourg.